

ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT
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NASA will drop objections to the Air Force's demand to have ten use-once-and-throw-away rockets to launch some of its secret satellites into orbit.

NBC Nightly News NBC-TV
7:00 P.M. FEBRUARY 26

MX Missile Program

TOM BROKAW: Secretary of State George Shultz and Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger teamed up today to promote the MX missile. In a rare joint appearance before a Senate committee, they said we need 100 of the missiles as a vital step in negotiating arms control with the Soviets. Shultz said, "This is no time to cast doubt on our national resolve." End of quote

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Joseph Mengele's Activities

PETER JENNINGS: According to CIA documents released today, Joseph Mengele, the Nazi war criminal who many people think is still alive, may have been at the center of a South America drug ring as recently as the 1970s. The documents were released at the request of two U.S. Senators.

And here's John Martin.

JOHN MARTIN: The two Senators, D'Amato of New York and Specter of Pennsylvania, displayed blowups of 11 documents released to them by the CIA. Despite line-by-line censors' markings, the documents show unverified reports

to the CIA suggesting Dr. Mengele turned to drug trafficking in the late 1960s in Paraguay. This after his family's manufacturing company allegedly stopped supporting him. The Senators said the CIA had failed to properly follow leads that might have led to his capture.

SEN. D'AMATO: I am convinced that there was absolutely little if any concern with respect to Mengele. Senator Specter is right.

SEN. SPECTER: It's an uncomfortable period in our history, where we have not acted. And nobody really gives a damn about Nazi war criminals.

REPORTER: But you're not suggesting that the United States Government protected Mengele.

SEN. SPECTER: I would respond to that by saying that the acts of omission constitute protection.

MARTIN: One unverified memo suggests Dr. Mengele roomed in 1968 with Martin Bormann, Hitler's deputy, long believed dead in Berlin. The same documents mentions Mengele receiving plastic surgery. Another document says Mengele assumed the name of Dr. Henrique Wollman. The Senators said Wollman owned a farm in Paraguay with a drug dealer.

The CIA said it didn't want to comment on charges that it had been lax. Two weeks ago it said the documents reflected little more than vague rumors.

The two Senators, meanwhile, say they are calling for the United States to capture Dr. Mengele, not because he is under indictment by any American court, but because, they said, they regard him as a fugitive from American custody.